

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-15 L-03 DRC-01 /069 W

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P R 041700Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 285

INFO USCINCEUR

CONFAIRMED

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMNAVTRACOM KENITRA

COMNAVCOMSTA SIDI YAHYA

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMCONSUL TANGIER

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 4575

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR MO

SUBJECT: KENITRA COMPLEX

1. DURING DISCUSSION KENITRA ELECTRICAL CONTRACT MORNING OCTOBER 4, SECRETARY GENERAL OF FOREIGN MINISTRY ALI SKALLI INFORMED ME IN PASSING THAT MINISTRY WAS WORKING ON PROPOSAL FOR QTE CONTRAT DE CADRE OR CONTRAT DE BASE UNQTE, I.E., BASIC CONTRACT, FOR KENITRA COMPLEX. WHEN I EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT THIS NEWS, HE SAID PERHAPS I HAD NOT BEEN KEPT INFORMED. SUBJECT HAD BEEN RAISED LAST YEAR BY FONMIN BENHIMA WHILE IN THE UNITED STATES AND, AS AGREED WITH AMERICANS AT THAT TIME, MOROCCANS WERE DRAWING UP PROPOSAL FOR CONTRACT. TELEPHONE REMARKS SKALLI MADE ON SUBJECT TO CHIEF OF MINISTRY'S LEGAL DIVISION INDICATED THEY HAVE IN MIND PROPOSING A DEFINITE PERIOD OF TENURE, BUT I DID NOT PRESS SKALLI FOR DETAILS.

2. COMMENT: SKALLI PRESUMABLY REFERRING TO CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN FONMIN BENHIMA AND SECRETARY ROGERS ON OCTOBER 11 AND WITH AMBASSADOR ROCKWELL ON NOVEMBER 2, 1972 WHEN
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HE SAID SUBJECT HAD BEEN RAISED LAST YEAR. AS WE READ THOSE

CONVERSATIONS, AND SUBSEQUENT ONES, WHILE MOROCCANS HAVE MADE
IT CLEAR THEY WOULD LIKE TO GET RENT FOR FACILITIES AT
KENITRA AND SIDI YAHYA, IT WOULD TAKE CONSIDERABLE
EMBROIDERING TO MAKE THEM ADD UP TO MUTUAL AGREEMENT THAT
MOROCCANS SHOULD MAKE PROPOSALS TO PUT OUR TENURE THERE ON
CONTRACTUAL BASIS. NATURE OF CONTRACT GOM CONSIDERING
PRESUMABLY WILL BE REVEALED IN FULLNESS OF TIME. I ASSUME,
HOWEVER, THAT MOROCCANS WILL PROPOSE LEASE FOR FIXED PERIOD
IN RETURN FOR AGREED RENT. IN ORDER TO PROTECT SKALLI,
WHO MAY HAVE COMMITTED INDISCRETION IN MENTIONING SUBJECT TO
ME, REQUEST THAT MATTER NOT BE RAISED WITH MOROCCANS IN
WASHINGTON OR NEW YORK UNTIL WE HAVE SOME FURTHER INDICATION
FROM THEM AS TO WHAT THEY HAVE IN MIND.
PARKER

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Message Attributes

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